

# **CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

May 23, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charlotte Adams, Gary Riley, Terry Shook and Joe Wehr

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Olmsted and John O'Shaughnessy

OTHERS PRESENT: Leo Miller [arrived 7:40 p.m.]

### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

MOVED (ADAMS), SECONDED (RILEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO OPEN THE MEETING OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION (CRC) AT 7:15 P.M. IN THE TOWN HALL, 55 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, CT.

### **2. CITIZENS FORUM: None.**

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

#### **a. April 25, 2006 Regular Meeting**

MOVED (ADAMS), SECONDED (SHOOK) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2006.

### **4. CONSIDER CHANGES TO TOWN CHARTER**

#### **a. Form of Town Government**

Mrs. Adams discussed rescheduling the presentation by Larry Schaffer, Town Administrator in Vernon. The CRC tentatively set a Special Meeting for June 21. Once the date is confirmed, invitations will be sent to the Board of Education, Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

#### **b. Town-wide Shared Services, including Building Maintenance and Finance**

Chairman Wehr stated that Jeff Smith, Director of Finance for the Town of Mansfield, has agreed to make a presentation to the CRC at the June 27 meeting. Invitations will be sent to the Board of Education, Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Nick DiCorleto, Tony Littizzio, Dr. Packman and Mr. Cullinan. Marie Sauve will also post the meeting notice on the Town's web site. Mr. Shook suggested inviting the civic organizations. The CRC agreed.

Mr. Wehr also referenced a letter he sent to the First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools regarding employment contracts extending beyond July 1, 2007. The CRC has not received a response to date.

c. Other Changes

Mrs. Adams distributed draft language to Section 1006 (attached) which addresses dividing the budget between General Government and Board of Education. Marie Sauve will forward it to the Town Attorney for his opinion.

Mr. Wehr stated that the First Selectman has express concern regarding the draft language to Section 1009 (j) re: grant requests that may impose a financial burden to the Town be approved by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. The CRC agreed to the following revision: "(j) All grants that have the potential to impose any financial burden on the town must be approved by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance prior to acceptance. At the time of acceptance, all information regarding future costs and/or responsibilities must be presented to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance for review."

Mr. Miller stated that the Board of Selectmen Ordinance Committee met tonight to address the CRC's request that they consider establishing an Ethics Ordinance. The Committee wants to look at the State's model before making any decisions.

Mr. Wehr suggested the CRC look at Charters from other Towns. Marie Sauve will ask CCM to provide Charters from other towns with like populations and to include a sample of various forms of government.

6. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (ADAMS), SECONDED (RILEY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING AT 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Sauve  
Recording Secretary